

Appl. No. 10/731,585
Amdt. dated February 10, 2005
Reply to Office action of November 17, 2004

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1 and 5-20 remain in this application. Claims 2-4 have been canceled.

The examiner has acknowledged that claims 3, 4, and 7 are directed to allowable subject matter. Claim 10-20 are allowed.

Claim 1, as amended, overcomes the 35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejection because it has been amended to include the limitations of the previous claim 3. The dependent claims 3-11 add additional novel features to the independent claims recited above and thus are submitted to be a-fortiori, patentable.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that:

Claims 1 and 5-20, as amended, recite distinctions that are of patentable merit under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) for the independent claims and thus for each dependent claim as well.

Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: February 10, 2005

Certificate of Facsimile

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by fax to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Anthony Edw. J Campbell

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. E. J. Campbell', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Thursday, February 10, 2005